

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5691
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USIA WASHDC

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USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU
SUBJECT: CYPRIOT COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT'S APRIL 15 REPORT ON CYPRUS

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO CONGRESS ON CYPRUS WAS MAJOR
NEWS STORY IN GREEK CYPRIOT WEEKEND PRESS. STORIES DID NOT AP-
PEAR TO BE BASED ON OFFICIAL TEXT OF REPORT. EDITORIALS WERE
UNITED IN CONDEMNING REPORT'S ALLEGED REFERENCE TO PROGRESS AT
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VIENNA VI. TURK CYPRIOT PRESS NOTED GREEK CYPRIOT DISMAY OVER
REPORT AND REPORTED ESENBEL STATEMENT THAT CARTER ADMINISTRATION
NOW SUPPORTS TURKISH DCA. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESIDENT'S CARTER'S REPORT TO CONGRESS WAS MAJOR STORY
THROUGHOUT GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS APR 17 AND CARRIED PROMINENTLY
ON LOCAL RADIO AND TV APR 16-17. MOST COVERAGE APPEARED TO BE

BASED ON PRESS REPORTING FROM WASHINGTON, NOT ON ACTUAL TEXT. VIRTUALLY ENTIRE PRESS PORTRAYED REPORT AS CLAIMING PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE AT VIENNA VI. SEMI-OFFICIAL PHILELEFTHEROS HEADED STORY: "NO PROGRESS BUT UNBRIDGEABLE GAP AT VIENNA, SKEPTICISM GREET'S CARTER REPORT"; COMMUNIST HARAVGHI: "CARTER MISLEADS WITH REPORT OF PROGRESS"; CONSERVATIVE AGHON RAN BANNER HEADLINE: "FIRST TASTE OF DISAPPOINTMENT." REFERRING TO GOC SPOKESMAN'S REFUSAL APR 16 TO COMMENT ON REPORT UNTIL HE HAD FULL TEXT, PRO-LYSSARIDES TA NEA HEADED STORY "NO COMMENT FROM THE GOVERNMENT ON THE CARTER REPORT, BUT THERE WILL BE REACTION."

3. EDITORIALS APR 17 REFLECTED SIMILAR DISTRESS. PHILELEFTHEROS CALLED PRESIDENT'S REFERENCE TO PROGRESS AT VIENNA "ABSOLUTELY WRONG." PAPER ACKNOWLEDGED POSSIBLE NEED OF NEW ADMINISTRATION TO LEARN THE ROPES BUT REGRETTED REPORT WOULD ONLY ENCOURAGE TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE. EDITORIAL INSISTED COUNTRIES, EAST OR WEST, WITH POWER AND INFLUENCE MUST BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON ANKARA. HARAVGHI OBSERVED THAT PRESIDENT'S "UNFOUNDED ALLEGATIONS" ABOUT PROGRESS HAD CAUSED INDIGNATION, QUOTED POLITICAL CIRCLES SAYING REPORT EVIDENTLY AIMS AT DECEIVING CONGRESS TO OBTAIN APPROVAL OF AMERICAN MILITARY AID TO TURKEY. TA NEA CLAIMED AMERICAN POLICY IS COMPLETELY EXPOSED AND THOSE CYPRIOTS NOW DISILLUSIONED WERE VICTIMS OF A MYTH CULTIVATED ABOUT PRESIDENT CARTER. NOTHING IS TO BE EXPECTED OF AMERICAN ESTABLISHMENT; FREEDOM CAN ONLY BE SECURED BY STRUGGLE.

4. WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED APR 18 MAINTAINED SAME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CRITICAL POSITION. PRO-GOVERNMENT DEMOKRATIKI SAID IT PREFERRED TO BELIEVE PRESIDENT'S REPORT WAS BASED ON WRONG INFORMATION NOT PREDETERMINED POLICY BUT COMPLAINED "HE PROMISED OBJECTIVITY, BUT HIS REPORT IS ANYTHING BUT OBJECTIVE." FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL IN PRO-CLERIDES ALITHIA OBJECTED TO REPORT'S REFERENCE TO PROGRESS AND BLAMED GOC'S PUBLIC INFORMATION EFFORT FOR FAILING COMMUNICATE ACCURATE PICTURE OF VIENNA TALKS TO WORLD OPINION. PRO-MAKARIOS KYPROS WAS "SURPRISED" BY REFERENCE TO PROGRESS IN REPORT BUT STATED IT WOULD NOT VOICE THE "REASONABLE SUSPICIONS" TO WHICH THE REPORT GIVES RISE UNTIL PAPER HAD CHANCE TO SEE TURKISH POSITION AT FORTHCOMING NICOSIA TALKS AND AMERICAN MOVES MEANWHILE.

5. TURK CYPRIOT PRESS HAS TREATED REPORT IN STRAIGHTFORWARD MANNER BUT HAS HIGHLIGHTED GREEK CYPRIOT'S DISMAY OVER REPORT AS WELL AS STATEMENT ALLEGEDLY MADE BY TURKISH AMBASSADOR ESENBEL THAT CARTER ADMINISTRATION NOW SUPPORTS TURKISH DCA?

6. PAST WIRELESS FILE TRANSMISSIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL REPORTS ON CYPRUS TO CONGRESS HAVE BEEN SATISFACTORY, BUT TEXT OF SUBJECT REPORT REACHED HERE TOO GARBLED AND TOO LATE FOR TIMELY PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION TO GOC PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE, AS NOTED IN PARA 2, AND OTHERS RELYING ON US FOR FAST, ACCURATE FULL TEXTS. IN FUTURE WOULD APPRECIATE FULL TEXT OF SUCH REPORTS BY CABLE AS SOON AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON AND PREFERABLY BEFORE PUBLICATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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